Appendix J.

[Vide page 1293 supra.]

Proceedings of the Eighteenth Meeting for 1922-1923 of the Standing Finance Committee of the Madras Legislative Council, held at Fort St. George on Tuesday, the 9th January 1923.

PRESENT:

(1) The Hon'ble Sir CHARLES TODHUNTER, K.C.S.I. (Chairman).
(2) M.R.Ry. Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR Avargal.
(3) Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB.
(4) Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN.
(5) M.R.Ry. Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGA CHETTIYAR Avargal.
(6) " A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR Avargal.
(7) Mr. A. M. MACDOUGALL.
(Rao Bahadur O. TANIKACHALA CHETTIYAR did not attend.)

The Committee scrutinized the budget estimates for 1923-1924 (Part I) under the following heads :—

7. Stamps.
20. Interest on other Obligations.
27. Ports and Pilotage.
30. Scientific Departments.
34. Agriculture.
37. Miscellaneous Departments.
47. Miscellaneous.
51. Contributions and assignments to the Central Government.

2. 7. *Stamps.*—The Committee would recommend that the question of the reduction of the expenditure in the shape of discount on sale of stamps be examined by the Retrenchment Committee.

3. *30. Scientific Departments—Hydro-Electric Surveys.*—The Committee would like a further explanation of the proposal to replace a temporary Sub-Engineer by an Assistant Executive Engineer and to give the latter special pay and house-rent and special pay to the Executive Engineer.

4. *30. Scientific Departments—Donations to Scientific Societies.*—The Committee would recommend the discontinuance of the contribution of Rs. 1,000 to the Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute, Poona, if the Government are not pledged to an annual payment.

5. *34. Agriculture.*—The Committee would recommend that the Retrenchment Secretary should examine the necessity for continuance of the posts of Inspector of Agricultural Offices (permanent and temporary) and that the temporary provision should be omitted meanwhile.

6. The Committee are not satisfied that it is necessary to maintain a Superintendent of the Central Farm, in addition to the Professor and Assistant Professor of Agriculture and Farm Managers at the Agricultural College. They would recommend that this appointment, which appears to be a new one, be omitted from the budget.

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7. They would recommend that the Retrenchment Secretary should examine the necessity for so many Supervising officers in the District staff, also of the retention of the Agricultural Engineer in addition to the lecturer in Agricultural Engineering, also the Assistant Farm Manager in the Potato Seed Farm and the Farm Manager and Assistant Farm Manager at the Botanical Gardens.

8. The Committee request that they may be provided with details of the lump provision of Rs. 50,000 for District Experimental cultivation and of Rs. 7,000 for 'other contingencies' for the Agricultural Engineer, and of Rs. 13,000 for working charges and other contingencies of the Botanical Gardens.

9. The Committee suggest that the necessity for the expenditure of Rs. 990 on the Old College Park and Rs. 3,960 on the up-keep of other public gardens and parks should also be examined.

10. *34. Agriculture—Veterinary charges.*—The Committee would recommend that the Retrenchment Secretary should examine the necessity for so large a superior inspecting staff. They would like to have details of the provision of Rs. 50,000 for anti-rinderpest and other sera and Rs. 24,000 for 'other contingencies.'

11. *34. Agriculture—Veterinary charges—Agency.*—The Committee would recommend the omission of provision for a Veterinary Inspector and two additional assistants in the Agency.

12. *34. Agriculture—Co-operative Credit.*—The Committee would request the Retrenchment Secretary to examine the question of the possibility of further reduction in the pay of Assistant Registrars. His attention should be specially invited to the fact that it is unnecessary to give an increase of cent per cent to an Inspector promoted to the post of Assistant Registrar.

It does not appear to them necessary to employ peons under Honorary Assistant Registrars.

13. *37. Miscellaneous Departments—Inspection of Factories.*—The Committee consider that a provision of Rs. 15,000 (against Rs. 18,000 proposed) would be sufficient under travelling allowance.

14. *Steam-Boiler Inspection staff.*—The Committee consider that a provision of Rs. 15,000 (against Rs 20,600 proposed) would be sufficient under travelling allowance.

15. *Industrial Settlements.*—The Finance Secretary will be requested to examine the proposals for writing off the advances at Kavali and Aziznagar.

FORT ST. GEORGE, C. G. TODHUNTER.
11th January 1923.